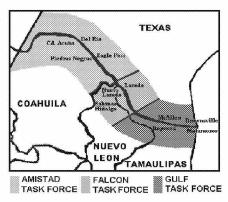
## **BORDER 2020**

# 2013-2014 Action Plan

for the TX-COAH-TAMP-NL Regional Workgroup

June 3, 2014



The **Four-State Regional Workgroup** is the most complex of the four regional workgroups, because of its geographical expanse and the number of municipalities. The region includes parts of three states and a total of at least 29 municipios on the Mexican side, and 168 cities and towns on the U.S. side. Recognizing this, the workgroup divided itself into three geographically based Task Forces—Amistad, Falcon, and Gulf, each of which has established subject-specific committees related to its priority concerns.

During the first half of 2012, the various committees have held meetings to discuss initial priorities for the Border 2020 program, and a regional meeting of leaders was held in June to develop a consensus of priorities at the task force and regional workgroup levels.

## **Regional Priorities**

- 1. Improve air quality through the following approaches:
  - a. Analyze emissions and emission sources in specific airsheds
  - b. Engage in both road-paving and reforestation (using native species)
  - c. Establish or improve vehicle inspection programs in those cities where the respective federal governments require them
  - d. Increase energy efficiency at the consumption level and the use of renewable energy at all appropriate levels
- 2. Improve water quality by taking the following actions:
  - a. Evaluate the portion of the Rio Grande watershed that is in the region
  - b. Reduce contamination by providing wastewater treatment to unserved communities in the watershed
  - c. Improving the existing treatment facilities by applying the most effective technologies and providing training to operators
  - d. Develop more applications for the re-use of water
  - e. Reduce non-native species in the water bodies
  - f. Continue and expand environmental education efforts such as "Adopt the River" and "Day of the River"

- 3. Address problems of improper waste disposal:
  - a. Develop comprehensive plans for solid waste management, including special wastes (such as sludge from wastewater treatment plants, scrap tires, and used electronic products) and hazardous wastes (residues from pesticides, extraction of fossil fuels, and medical facilities), looking for economic/productive uses of wastes whenever possible
  - b. Expand environmental education related to waste issues
  - c. Close and remediate open dumps wherever required by regulation
- 4. Assure that each project includes a component of environmental education (such as teacher training or building an environmental library), at least one indicator related to public health, and inspection and surveillance

### **Individual Task Force Priorities**

#### Amistad Task Force

- 1. Reduction of energy consumption in buildings and street lighting
- 2. Increased use of alternate and renewable energy sources (such as landfill gas and solar energy)
- Construction of sanitary landfills
- 4. Attention to waste disposal in gas drilling operations
- 5. Continuing attention to emergency response
- 6. Harmonization of protocols related to coal mining and remediation and to petroleum materials
- Improvement of vehicle inspection programs in Coahuila
- 8. Joint programs in communication and environmental education, and development of an environmental educators group

#### Falcon Task Force

- Re-use of treated water
- Monitoring of drilling operations in the Eagle Ford Shale
- 3. Finalizing the cross-border contingency plan

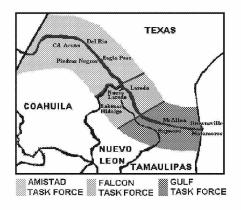
#### **Gulf Task Force**

- Improvement of water-related infrastructure, and increased attention to water conservation and re-use
- Increased recycling
- Continuing capacity-building at the local, state, and federal levels of government
- 4. Technical exchanges, including best practices and lessons learned

## Border 2020

# 2013-2014 Action Plan Grid for the Four-State Regional Workgroup

Legen	d:
	Activity covers at least two task force areas
	Gulf Task Force
	Falcon Task Force
	Amistad Task Force



## **GOAL #1: Reduce Air Pollution**

	Description of Project	Collaborating Organizations	Anticipate d Cost	Source(s) of funding	Points of Contact	2013-2014 Target	Progress Towards Target
F =0	ve 1: By 2020, reduce the number of veh ns at ports-of-entry through anti-idling a		1.00	at do not comp	ly with the respective v	ehicle emissions standard	Coahuila initiated vehicle
1.1.01	Continue to develop Coahuila's vehicle inspection program, partly in consultation with Texas regarding the latter's experience.	SEMA (Coahuila), COMIMSA, Municipio de Piedras Negras, Municipio de Acuña, TCEQ	\$700,000	SEMA Coahuila	Miguel Ángel Leal Reyes (SEMA) miguel.reyes@sema. gob.mx	Inspect 40% of the vehicles in Acuña, Piedras Negras, Monclova, Saltillo, and Ramos Arizpe .	inspections in border cities in June 2012. SEMA signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the TCEQ in May 2013; specific forms of collaboration are being negotiated.

Objectiv	ve 5: By 2020, reduce emissions and asso	ciated impacts, through	energy effici	ency and/or alte	rnative/renewable ene	rgy projects	
1.5.02	Initiate Phase 2 of the State Climate Action Plan for Coahuila (PEAC): Quantification of the mitigation policies selected in Phase 1.	Coahuila State Government and BECC	\$275,000	BECC	Tomás Balarezo, BECC	CICC is installed Integrated Technical Working Groups (TWG) and the Advisory Group (AG), Consultant hired Local Coordinator and local experts recruited	Develop a document with quantitative measurements of reductions in GHG emissions from the selected Mitigation Policies (MP), the impacts of these MP in local Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employment and per capita income and amount of funds to finance new MP.
1.5.03	Initiate Phase 2 of the State Climate Action Plan for Tamaulipas (PEAC): Quantification of the mitigation public policies selected in Phase 1.	Tamaulipas State Government and BECC	\$151,000	BECC	Tomás Balarezo, BECC	State strategy work is redesigned. CICC is installed. Integrated Technical Working Groups (TWG) and the Advisory Group (AG). Consultant hired	Develop a document of Selected Mitigation Policies through an open and participatory process.
1.5.04	Research the potential for harnessing wind power for electricity in Tamaulipas.	SEMARNAT and SEDUMA		SEMARNAT will seek funds	Delfino.ramirez@se marnat.tamaulipas.g ob.mx	Conduct research and explore business opportunities	A forum was held in October 2012. No information available since then.
Comm	ent: This forum was replicated by S	SEDUMA in Novembe	er 2012 and	d have 26 proj	ects in process		
1.5.05	Research the potential for harnessing wind power for electricity generation in Nuevo León.	Secretaría de Desarrollo Sustentable de Nuevo León	\$10,000	Mexican federal funds/CONAC YT	Norma Rangel (SDS, Nuevo León), normaarangel@gmai l.com	Establish wind monitors in selected areas of the state by the end of 2013, and begin generating wind maps in 2014.	SDS continues to search for funding.
1.5.06	Construct and operate a facility that extracts methane gas from the Nuevo	Municipio de Nuevo Laredo and Setasa	\$3.5 million	Private sector; a company	Sergio Martínez López	Have the facility in full operation by the end of	A feasibility study was completed 2008 with

	Laredo landfill and burns it to generate electricity for the municipality.	(Servicios de Tecnologia Ambiental S.A.)		will be selected and then will build and operate the plant, selling the electricity to CFE and giving a portion of revenues from carbon credits to the municipio.	sergiomartinezlopez @hotmail.com	2014.	funding from USAID. Issuance of a tender for construction is pending (the municipio needs to obtain the property title).
1.5.07	Implement a pilot program to diagnose the existing Mexican fleet of heavy-duty commercial trucks in cross-border trade in the Laredo -Nuevo Laredo area, identify retrofit technologies that would reduce emissions, and share information on those technologies, their costs, and suppliers at a binational forum.	SEMARNAT and the Municipio of Nuevo Laredo	\$50,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Ing. Eduardo Olivares (SEMARNAT-Clean Transportation Program), eduardo.olivares@se marnat.gob.mx, and Osvaldo Valencia (Municipio de Nuevo Laredo—Ecology Program), valencia osvaldo@h otmail.com	Complete the project by the end of 2013.	The final report Generated information to raise awareness to the transportation companies on the issue of emissions of diesel. Information of 2,756 trucks and 456 companies had. 50% of the sample trucks are 2000 or earlier model, the trucks are aged over 13 years, and 84% are 2006 model or earlier, aged 7 years or more.
1.5.08	Establish an air quality monitoring network in the areas of Piedras Negras- Nava, Acuña, Sabinas, and Saltillo, Coahuila.	SEMA (Coahuila), Municipio de Piedras Negras, Acuña, Nava, Sabinas, Saltillo	1,400,000	SEMA Coahuila	Miguel Ángel Leal Reyes (SEMA Coahuila) miguel.reyes@sema. ob.mx	Have air quality monitoring network in operation for Piedras Negras-Nava Region, Acuña, Sabinas Region and Saltillo Region, Coahuila	SEMA has begun working with local officials to include these projects in the plans of the applicable "Metropolitan Zones".
1.5.09	Apply retrofit technologies to public buildings in Piedras Negras and Acuña, Coahuila that will reduce energy consumption.	SEMA (Coahuila), Município de Piedras Negras y Município de Acuña	\$500,000	SEMA Coahuila	Olga Rumayor (SEMA Coahuila) olga.rumayor@sema. gob.mx	Involve municipal agencies through a series of workshops and select at least 10	The project is still in the planning phase, and will be proposed to the BECC to obtain support.

						buildings to pilot retrofit technologies.	
1.5.10	Design and implement vehicle emission verification programs or campaigns in Tamaulipas.	SEDUMA	To be defined	SEDUMA/ SEMARNAT	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas	Have vehicle verification program in the border area of the state by end of 2014	Pilot program focused on the state-owned fleet was initiated in early 2013.
Comm	ent: Pending its implementation, po	ssible start in early	2015		-1		1
1.5.11	Promote and encourage the use and exploitation of renewable energy sources and alternative energy potential in Tamaulipas.	SEDUMA	To be defined	SEDUMA/ SEMARNAT	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas .gob.mx	Prepare action plan for nine wind power projects and state's strategic energy program	Baseline information is being collected.
Comm	ent: SEDUMA has a demonstration	project and current	ly have 26 p	projects in pro	ocess		
1.5.12	Strengthen Tamaulipas' atmospheric monitoring system.	SEDUMA	Por definirse	SEDUMA/ EPA/COCEF	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas .gob.mx	By 2014, the system will operate at 100% with programmatic consistency standards	8 municipalities of the State and have the equipment for air monitoring of PM10 (Matamoros, Reynosa, Laredo Nvo, Victoria, Mante, Tampico, Madero and Altamira), Currently only 3 of these eight municipalities are operating the system of air monitoring (Nvo Laredo, Victoria, Tampico)
1.5.13	Implementation of a environmental management system as a strategy for energy efficiency in Tamaulipas.	SEDUMA/Municipios	\$ 100,000	SEDUMA/ EPA/COCEF	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas .gob.mx	By 2014, train in collaboration with ICLEI and INECC 100% of the border municipalities	State trained 16 municipalities from the border region and the San Fernando Valley region, with an attendance of approximately 100 people, the workshop was held in Reynosa.

Goal # 2: Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water

COEC	Description of Project	Collaborating Organizations	Agticipate d Cost	Source: or tending	Points of Contact	2013-2014 Target	Progress Towards Target
General							
2001	Build and begin operation of a description of a description plant in Nuevo León, using tenewable energy as the energy source for the plant.	Servicios de Agua y Drenaje de Monterrey (SADM, Nuevo León's water utility)		SADM, BECC, and National Water Commission	Norma Rangel (SDS, Nuevo León), normaarangel@gmail.c om y Carlos Avila, carlos avila@sadm.gob. mx	Have the plant in operation by the end of 2014.	Project Canceled
	2: Help drinking water and wastewater se use water efficiently and adapt to climate		ler region to in	nplement sust	ainable infrastructure prac	tices to reduce operating o	costs, improve energy
2.2.04	Conduct training for small businesses in the Reynosa area on best practices related to discharges of fats, oils, and grease (will include before and after measures).	Municipia of Reynosa	\$16,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Mauricio Chalons (Municipio of Reynosa), 899 263-3798, ecologiareynosa@hotm ail.com	Organize a workshop or training event(s).	Project canceled.
2.2.06 (Sub-Obj. 3a)	Implement a binational Lower Rio Grande Water Quality Initiative (from Falcon to the Gulf) that characterizes the state of the river, develops a strategic plan to improve environmental conditions, and proposes a monitoring plan to document progress.	TCEQ, EPA, IBWC, CONAGUA, and federal, state, and local government agencies		TCEQ, EPA, IBWC, and federal, state, and local governme nt agencies	Kelly Holligan (TCEQ), 512-239-2369, Kelly holligan@tceq.tex as.gov	Establish the collaborative partnership by early 2013, and make substantive progress on objectives by the end of 2014.	Terms of reference were developed that serve as the framework used by participating entities in the collaboration. In February and July 2013, TCEQ hosted training sessions on water quality modeling software (QUAL-TX and LAQUAL) for Mexican agency and EPA staff.
2.2.07 (Sub-obj. 2b)	Install/upgrade new sewer lines connected to Nuevo Laredo's wastewater treatment plant to prevent contaminated discharges to the Rio Grande.	COMAPA and Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	\$5,000,000	North American Developm ent Bank (NADB)	Claudia López Aguilar (Comisión Municipal de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado— COMAPA) claudialopez@comapan	Complete the project by December 2014.	BECC certified the project in September 2012. COMAPA will complete the construction of four sewer collectors to the

	uevolaredo.gob.mx  New Manager CP Delfino González Muñoz Tel: 867-8900900 dgcdelfino@hotmail.co m dianarigal@comapanue volaredo.gob.mx	wastewater treatment plant by August 2013 and will work with CONAGUA on securing funding to address sewer discharges (about 280,000 GD) from La Joya Creek to the Rio Grande. COMAPA and the municipio are in the process of signing an agreement with the property owner to allow crews to repair the discharge point from La Joya creek since it is on private property. Along with this effluent discharge, COMAPA has identified five discharge points. Here is a breakdown on the work being conducted on these collectors:  More than 230,000 gallons per day from the 5 de febrero collector have been eliminated and 40% of the repairs have been completed for the second phase  90% of the work to repair the Guatemala collector has been finished. The total amount (420,000 GD) that is currently discharging should be eliminated by May 2014  Work is underway to
		Work is underway to rehabilitate the America,

Anahuac and Iturbide
collectors, which are
discharging about 1.2
MGD. All sewer
discharges should be
eliminated by Novemb
2014.

Comment: Conclusion of activities in January 2015, in March 2015 the IBWC conduct a monitoring water quality of the river

## Objective 3: Work binationally to identify and reduce surface water contamination in transboundary waterbodies or watersheds.

2.3.02	Conduct feasibility studies for wastewater treatment plants in the municipalities of Hidalgo and Guerrero, Coahuila.	CEAS Coahuila, SEMA Coahuila	\$15,000	CNA, Coahuila	Alejandra Carrera (SEMA Coahuila), alejandra.carrera@sem a.gob.mx	Complete the studies by early 2014	CEAS has completed the feasibility studies and is making efforts to implement water management programs in those municipalities.
2.3.03	Design and implement local public conservation campaigns and land conservation agreements for Rio San Rodrigo and Arroyo Las Vacas.	SEMA Coahuila, Municipio de Piedras Negras and Municipio de Acuña	\$400,000	Coahuila will fund first part and will be seeking funding for the rest	Alejandra Carrera (SEMA Coahuila), alejandra.carrera@sem a.gob.mx	Begin implementing the campaigns and conclude the land conservation agreements by the end of 2014.	SEMA obtained funding from the EPA through the BECC in November 2013 to restore and conserve the Arroyo Las Vacas. SEMA has developed partnerships with TCEQ, Ciudad Acuña, local academic institutions, and UT Austin, and is finalizing the workplan. The project will promote awareness and take actions to improve the ecosystem of the arroyo.
2.3.04	Implement a program to remove invasive plants in the Rio Grande.	SEMA Coahuila, CONANP, Profauna	\$85,000	SEMA Coahuila, CONANP, Profauna –	Alejandra Carrera (SEMA Coahuila) alejandra.carrera@sem a.gob.mx	By the end of 2014, increase the invasive species plant removal program in the Rio	No progress yet.

and will Grande.
seek other
funding
sources

## **Goal # 3: Promote Materials Management, Waste Management and Clean Sites**

Sojes.	Description of Project	Collaborating Organizations	Addition	organismos organismos	Points of Contact	2013-2014 Target	Progress Towards Target
Objectiv	ve 1: By 2020, increase local and state-lev	el knowledge and expe	rience in the	area of sustain	able material management	practices.	
3.1.01	Link and promote the Mexican federal program "Green Schools" in all three Mexican states in the region and explore possible use in Texas.	SEMARNAT/Tamaulip as and state agencies in Tamaulipas, Nuevo León, and Coahuila	??	SEMARNA T	Delfino Ramirez (SEMARNAT/Tamaulipas), Delfino.ramirez@semarna t.tamaulipas.gob.mx	Reach 150 schools in the 3 Mexican States by July 2013. Hold an information exchange meeting w/Texas 2014	Program very successful in Tamaulipas135 schools are registered in the Green School Program, of which 33 are in Nuevo Laredo, 50 in Reynosa and 9 in Matamoros. Information not available from other states.
	ent: The program was completed in MA SIMAE (School Environmental I					IMA. The new strate	gy is called by
3.1.04	Establish an environmental organization to develop environmental awareness and clean-up programs in Nuevo Laredo.	Keep Laredo Beautiful, Keep America Beautiful, and the Municipio de	\$5,000	The Gateway Rotary Club and Keep	Ing. Marco Antonio Garza Delgado y Lic. María Guadalupe Herrera Rodríguez U.T. (Programa Zona Verde, Nuevo Laredo)	Recruit reps of non- profit organizations and school officials as members of a board	No progress toward target as of July 2013.
		Nuevo Laredo		America Beautiful	Lynne Nava (Keep Laredo Beautiful), Inava1@ci.laredo.tx.us	of directors in 2013.	
3.1.07	Expand a municipal recycling program started in March 2012 in Nuevo Laredo and currently consisting of placing public	Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	777	Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	Osvaldo Valencia (Municipio de Nuevo Laredo — Ecology	Install the bins at all elementary schools in 2013 and start	Environmental education conferences were resumed at city

Comm	bins in parks, to include all elementary schools in Nuevo Laredo.  ent: The program was completed.				Program)  valencia osvaldo@hotma il.com	relevant environmental education programs for students.	elementary schools in February 2013.
3.1.08	Extend Tamaulipas' environmental management system program (SIMA) to private institutions, schools, and shops.	SEDUMA	\$ 300,000	EPA/SEDU MA/SEMA RNAT	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas.gob. <u>mx</u>	Reach out to 100% of the border cities	The SIMA Program has been implemented in 30 schools in the municipality of Matamoros.  State has invested 1 million 800 thousand pesos for replacement of furniture and equipment of high efficiency consumption of water and energy, clean energy production, waste recycling, rainwater collection and environmental education workshops. In the 2nd half of 2014 will support equipmen (containers for medica waste and saving features) at 2 participants SIMA schools.
3.1.09	Redesign and extend coverage of the E- conexion Newsletter as strategy to share best practices.	SEDUMA	\$ 30,000	SEDUMA	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas (SEDUMA), seduma@tamaulipas.gob. mx	Extend the dissemination of the E-Conexion to 100% of the Tamaulipas municipalities	Activity in process

Objective 2: By 2014, identify priority waste streams and by 2020 develop sustainable material management practices that strengthen their respective market value.

3 2.01	Build capacity in scrap-tire management throughout the region.	Sustainable Development Secretariat, State of Nuevo León	\$35,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Norma Rangel Sevilla (SDS, Nuevo León), normaarangel@gmail.co m	Prepare a "best practices" manual and perhaps hold a regional workshop	Tire manual for tire recollection center
3.2.02	Use organic waste generated in Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo León to make compost and then apply it to agricultural uses and urban gardening.	Sustainable Development Secretariat, SEMARNAT- Municipio of Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo León	Mexican federal funds \$67,000	Municipio of Sabinas Hidalgo Nuevo León	Norma Rangel Sevilla (SDS, Nuevo León), normaarangel@gmail.co <u>m</u> y chel1977@live.com.mx	By the end of 2014, compost 100% of organic waste collected by the municipality from large waste generators.	Project canceled
3.2.04	Develop a composting operation in Nuevo Laredo using sludge from the wastewater treatment plant and yard wastes, and apply the product in municipal parks as well as in homes (through sales to homeowners).	COMAPA and Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	\$30,000 ¿?	Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	Carlos Montiel Saeb (Comisión Municipal de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado— COMAPA) carlosmontielsaeb@hot mail.com	The program, including applications and sales, is expected to be in full operation by sometime in 2013.	Currently the compost is being applied to the germination of seeds and vegetables in the greenhouse of the municipio's Research and Environmental Education Center.
3.2.05	Implement a collection program for used electronic products in Reynosa, Tamaulipas.	Municipio of Reynosa	\$30,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Mauricio Chalons (Municipio of Reynosa), 899 263-3798 ecologiareynosa@hotma il.com	Promote sustainable routes to properly manage waste streams generated by electronic waste in Reynosa, Tamaulipas	Project completed by the end of 2013. The city collected about 27.7 tons of e- waste and sent for recycling.
3.2.06	Design and implement a state scrap tire management program that includes valuation.	SEDUMA	\$ 400,000	SEDUMA/S EMARTAN T/EPA	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas (SEDUMA), seduma@tamaulipas.go b.mx	Develop public policy and management plan for scrap tires	No progress on the project
3.2.07	Evaluate and take advantage of energy potential of waste in Matamoros landfills.	SEDUMA	\$ 300,000	SEDUMA/E PA	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas.go b.mx	Complete action plan	No progress on the project

3.3.01	Complete the remediation of old oxidation lagoons.	Municipio de Piedras Negras and State of Coahuila environmental agency (SEMA)	\$300,000	State of Coahuila environmen tal agency (SEMA)	Alfredo Lucero (Pledras Negras), aalm68@hotmail.com	Complete the remediation of the remaining 10.3 acres by the end of 2013, after which the municipality will develop a road extension to and a green area at the site.	Prior to 2012, 19.7 acres of the 30-acre site had been remediated. No new information available.
3.3.03	Establish a sustainable management plan for scrap tires in Piedras Negras, Coahuila.	SEMA, Municipio de Piedras Negras	\$400,000	i?	Miguel Angel Leal (miguel.leal@sema.gob .mx)	Develop plan and place in full operation by the end of 2014	SEMA determined they need to perform a feasibility study on using coal pits as disposal sites for scrap tires.

# **Goal #4: Enhance Joint Preparedness for Environmental Response**

Project Description of Project	Collaborating Organizations	Anticipate Source(s) o a Cost funding	Points of Contact	2885-2014 Target	Propries Townsis Eage			
Objective 2: By 2020, at least eight (8) of the sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related activities such as certified training, risk analysis, and/or capacity building.								
Develop an emergency response plan for 4.2.01 the maquiladoras in Brecha E-99 in Reynosa, Tamaulipas.	CAMPIR (Comite de Ayuda Mutua del Parque Industrial Reynosa) (Reynosa Industrial Park Mutual Aid Committee)	EPA border grant through the BECC	Dr. Emilio Sonderegger Arriola emilio.sonderegger@l andisgyr.com	777	Project canceled.			

4.2.03	Hold a binational chemical-spill exercise at the World Trade Bridge between Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas and Laredo, Texas.	Civil Protection and Fire Department of Nuevo Laredo, Tamps., and the City of Laredo Fire Department	\$5,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Lic. Juan Ernesto Rivera Gómez (Civil Protección de Nuevo Laredo), proteccioncivilnuevola redo@hotmail.com or ernestorivera5775@h otmail.com New Manager: Ing. Juan Ulises Ochoa Correa jochoa@nuevolaredo. gob.mx juan.u8a@hotmail.co m Tel: 867-7124635 867-7128911	Hold the exercise after the Mexican federal government has approved a permit that allows hazardous waste to be transported on this bridge.	The U.S. Department of State issued a "presidential permit" in May 2014 for the use of the bridge for transport of hazardous materials, but the Mexican government is awaiting the completion of a flow study that CONAGUA is conducting in the Rio Grande before issuing its permit. If and when a Mexican permit is issued, local officials will organize a binational exercise. Still waiting for a date to finish this study and define next steps
4.2.04	Develop a cross-border contingency plan for the Solidarity Bridge, involving first responders from Colombia (Nuevo León), Nuevo Laredo (Tamaulipas), and Laredo (Texas), recognizing that Colombia, upstream from the other two cities, is much smaller and yet shipments of hazardous materials in the area are currently directed to this bridge.	Civil Protección and fire departments for both Colombia and Nuevo Laredo, CODEFRONT, and the City of Laredo	\$5,000 -	EPA, COCEF, PROFEPA, and Protección Civil	Jorge Camacho (Protección Civil de Nuevo León), jorge.camacho@nuev oleon.gob.mx New officer: Juan Ulises Ochoa Correa jochoa@nuevolaredo. gob.mx juan.u8a@hotmail.co m Tel: 867-712-4635 867-7128911	The objective of this training was to perform a simulation in the World Trade International Bridge (Bridge III) as part of the training staff of Civil Protection in response to contingencies, taking into account that this port is in the process of authorization to cross hazardous materials eventhoug it already has the infrastructure to handle these materials.	Pending approval by the Government of Mexico to cross hazardous materials. Part of the process is to wait for a water quality analysis performed by CONAGUA. In reality the materials cross by the Colombia Bridge in Nuevo Leon, but do not have the civil protection resources. In the case of an event, the assistance comes from Nuevo Laredo. Once the permit is released the drill can takes place.

4.2.05	Finish updating the 1998 Cross-Border Contingency Plan between the sister cities of Laredo, Texas and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, in order to improve emergency response communication and protocols.	Laredo Fire Department, Protección Civil de Nuevo Laredo, and CILA	No cost	City of Laredo and Nuevo Laredo	Eloy Vega (City of Laredo Fire Department), evega@ci.laredo.tx.us Ernesto Rivera (Protección Civil de Nuevo Laredo), proteccioncivilnuevola redo@hotmail.com	Hold new meetings of the staff of the two cities in 2013 in order to re- visit the language of the draft revision and possibly develop alternative language.	Laredo officials met in May 2013 to make changes to one sentence in a draft of the new cross-border contingency plan that had been originally prepared in 2009. The changes were intended to clarify that Laredo could not send personnel across the border, because of security and liability concerns, but could assist in other ways. The revised agreement was been approved subsequently by Nuevo Laredo, but has been awaiting action by the Laredo City Council since that time.
4.2.06	Update and improve the cross-border contingency plans for emergency response for the sister-city pairs of (a) Eagle Pass, Texas and Piedras Negras, Coahuila and (b) Del Rio, Texas and Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, which will include risk analysis and development of risk maps.	City of Eagle Pass, Municipio de Piedras Negras, City of Del Rio, Municipio de Ciudad Acuña, BECC, and the Rio Grande Institute	\$130,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Briselda Duarte (Border Environment Cooperation Commission), bduarte@cocef.org and M.C. Mónica de Jesús Pérez Morales (Consultoría y Servicios en Seguridad Industrial y Medio Ambiente, S.A. de C.V.)	Complete new plans by the end of 2013.	The project was completed by the end of 2013. Under contract from the BECC, two workshops were organized in the first half of 2012 for staff from the two pairs of sister cities to discuss protocols and risks. After delays and the hiring of a new contractor, additional workshops were held in July 2013. In November of that year, the two sister-city pairs each signed a Memorandum

rer
of Cooperation for new
cross-border
contingency plans.
Each community
committed to providing
resources and mutual
aid in case of chemical
accidents.